DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

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Authority: EO 13526
DIA FOIA & Declassification Services Offices
Date: Oct 17, 2018

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ACTION
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ASD:ISA(10) ASD:PA&E(01) ::DIA(20) NMIC
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DE RUESBAA [redacted] 0591820 (b)(3) 10 U.S.C.
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P 2816357 FEB 79
FM (b)(3):10 USC 424
TO RUEKJCS/DIA WASHDC/DB-3E/
INFO RUEKJCS/DOD WASHDC/OSD-ISA
BT
~~C O N F I D E N T I A L/NOFORN~~ (b)(3) 10 U.S.C. 42

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SUBJ: THIS IS (b)(3):10 USC 424 Rec'd DB-3B/ 02MAR/9

1. COUNTRY: ARGENTINA (ARL
2. REPORT NUMBER: (b)(3):10 USC 424
3. TITLE:ARGENTINE MILITARY HUMAN RIGHTS VIEWS
4. PROJECT NUMBER: N/A
5. DATE OF INFORMATION: 790222-790223
6. DATE OF REPORT: 790227
7. DATE AND PLACE OF ACQUISITION: 790222-790223, BUENOS AIRES
8. REFERNCES: (b)(3):10 USC 424
9. ASSESSMENT: (b)(3):10 USC 424
10. ORIGINATOR: (b)(3) 10 U.S.C. 424
11. REQUEST EVALUATION: OMIT
12. PREPARING OFFICER: (b)(3) 10 U.S.C. 424
(b)(3) 10 U.S.C.
13. APPROVING AUTHORITY: (b)(3) 10 U.S.C. 424
(b)(3) 10 U.S.C. 424

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14. SOURCE: PERSONAL OBSERVATION
15. SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: ~~DIRG NO NOFORN TO AVOID EMBARRASSMENT TO HOST GOVERNMENT~~
16. (U) SUMMARY: THIS IR REPORTS THAT DURING VISITS BY VICE ADM SCHULLER, OSD/ISA, SEVERAL POSITIVE COMMENTS WERE MADE BY KEY ARGENTINE OFFICERS WITH RESPECT TO EFFORTS TO IMPROVE CONDITIONS OF INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS IN ARGENTINA, ESPECIALLY IN TERMS OF RETURN TO THE RULE OF LAW.

22. ~~(C/NOFORN)~~ DETAILS: 1. (U) VADM GORDON SCHULLER OSD/ISA VISITED BUENOS AIRES DURING 790222-790224 WHILE ON A LATIN AMERICAN ORIENTATION TOUR. WHILE HERE HE HAD APPOINTMS AT NAV HQ, MINISTRY OF DEFENSE, AF HQ, DIRECTORATE OF MILITARY FACTORIES, AND ARMY HQ, IN THAT ORDER.

2. ~~(C/NOFORN)~~ THE MEETING AT NAV HQ WITH SECY GENERAL OF ARGNAV IS REPORTED SEPARATELY (b)(3):10 USC 424 . GENERALLY THE MEETING WAS COOL AND REFLECTED SOME RANCOR OVER HUMPHREY-KENNEDY IMPACT ON US-ARG NAVAL RELATIONSHIPS.

3. ~~(C/NOFORN)~~ AT THE DEFENSE MINISTRY, CONTADOR (MASTERS IN ECONOMICS) JORGE A. MONZO, ACTING DEFENSE MINISTER, METN WITH ADM SCHULLER. WHEN THE DISCUSSION GOT TO HUMAN RIGHTS IT WAS POINTED OUT THAT CONCRETE IMPROVEMENTS WOULD HAVE TO BE SHOWN FOR OUR RELATIONSHIP TO IMPROVE MARKEDLY. THE ACTING MINISTER RESPONDED BY SAYING "YOU WILL NOTE IN THE PAPERS RECENTLY THE INCREASE IN THE OPERATION OF THE RULES OF LAW. THERE ARE EXAMPLES OF TERRORISTS BEING SENTENCED AS WELL AS EXAMPLES OF OFFICIALS BEING PUNISHED BY THE COURTS FOR ABUSES AND EXCESSES. THIS RETURN TO THE COURTS WILL CONTINUE." THE ACTING DEFENSE MINISTER CAUTIONED, HOWEVER, THAT THE US NOT JUDGE ARGENTINA AT THIS TIME ON THE BASIS OF FREE ELECTIONS AS THEY EXIST IN THE US. HE INDICATED THAT SUCH A CONDITION WAS THE GOAL BUT THAT IT WOULD TAKE TIME.

4. (U) MEETING WITH ARG. AIR FORCE WILL BE REPORTED SEPARATELY. IT WAS POSITIVE.

5. ~~(C/NOFORN)~~ AT THE DIRECTORATE OF MILITARY FACTORIES, ADM SCHULLER TALKED WITH MAJO GEN GALLINOS, DEPUTY DIRECTOR AND BG POZZO, DIRECTOR OF PRODUTICION. AFTER A BRIEFING ON MILITARY FACTORIES, THE

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DISCUSSION TURNED TO ARGENTINE-US RELATIONS. MG GALLINO DISCUSSED THE PROBLEM THAT HAD ARISEN DURING THE PERON PERIOD, AND PARTICULARLY BEYOND NATIONAL CAPABILITY. HE SAID THAT THERE IS AN EDUCATION/ORIENTATION PROCESS THAT MUST GROW CAREFULLY TO GET BACK TO FREE ELECTIONS. HE SAID WITH RESPECT TO HUMAN RIGHTS THAT THE ARGENTINE PEOPLE HAVE THE SAME VALUE SYSTEMS AS THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, AND THAT THE ARGENTINES HOPE TO EMULATE OUR ELECTORAL AND JUDICIAL SYSTEM. HE SAID THAT CONDITIONS ARE GOOD NOW FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO BE MADE IN THE RETURN TO THE COURTS.

6. ~~(C/NOFORN)~~ AT THE ARMY HQ, THE ADMIRAL WAS RECEIVED BY CHIEF OF PROTOCOL (COL) AND SALUTED BY THE CIN'S GUARD OF HONOR OF THE PATRICIOS REGIMENT. BG BIGNONE, SCY GEN OF THE ARMY, WAS MOST CORDIAL. ALTHOUGH HE LAMTENTED THE INABILITY TO BUY EQUIPMENT HE EXPRESSED A DESIRE TO KEEP COMMUNICATION LINES OPEN AND THE HOPE THAT WHEN THINGS IMPROVED, TRAINING OF OFFICERS IN THE US COULD RESUME. HE EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF THE YOUNGER OFFICERS BEING TRAINED/EDUCATED IN OUR USMILITARY SCHOOL SYSTEM SO THAT THEY COULD BETTER UNDERSTAND OUR COUNTRY WHEN DISCUSSING THE HUMAN RIGHTS PROBLEMS IN THE COUNTRY, HE SAID THINGS ARE MOVING AND IMPROVING EACH DAY. HE SAID SOON THEY WILL BE ABLE TO PUT SOME FACTS IN THE ADMIRAL'S HANDS TO SHOW THE IMPROVEMENTS.
COMMENT: ~~(C)~~ THE MEETINGS WERE CORDIAL AND POSITIVE. NOTABLY LACKING WERE THE "LECTURES"NORMALLY RECEIVED ON HUMAN RIGHTS POLICIES, ALTHOUGH THERE STILL REMAINS DISAPPOINTMENT OVER THE CUT-OFF OF SALES AND TRAINING. WHAT WAS EVIDENT WAS AN EXPRESSION OF A DESIRE TO KEEP COMMUNICATIONS OPEN, TO IMPROVE RELATIONS AND AN UNDERLYING DESIRE TO IMPROVE CONDITIONS IN ARGENTINA, ESPECIALLY IN TERMS OF A RETURN TO THE RULE OF LAW (IN THIS REGARD SE BUENOS AIRES TELEGRA 1535, DTG 232040Z FEB 79 ~~(C)~~.
EMBASSY COORDINATED.
~~DECL 27 FEB 1999~~
BT
(b)(3) 10 U.S.C. 42
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